## SARAH J. SLOAT

## Kansas

On the radio the police told me to close the windows and take shelter

but what else was I there for in the sufficient middle

of nowhere if not to abide as stranger to strangers, sixty

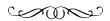
miles of radiant insulation between us. Landscape stripped of trees, the sirens railed

insatiable. The wind stepped closer to the microphone, a voice

to smash the sticks, the pearls and stones, all my brave arrangements,

with loneliness, an extended song, the long arm, the law that breaks us.

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## ABOUT SARAH J. SLOAT

Sarah J. Sloat grew up in New Jersey and has lived for many years in Germany, where she works in news. Her poems have appeared in *Linebreak*, *Court Green*, and *Harper's Ferry Review*. She has two chapbooks—*Excuse me while I wring this long swim out of my hair* and *Inksuite*—available from Dancing Girl Press. Another chapbook, *Homebodies*, was published by Hyacinth Girl Press in 2012.